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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
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Agenda item 5

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Antigua and Barbuda*, Argentina*, Bangladesh*, Bolivia*, Côte d'Ivoire*, Gambia*, Indonesia*, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea and Switzerland*: draft resolution

Traffic in women and girls

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming its faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 2/ the International Covenants on Human Rights, 3/ the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 34/180, annex.

3/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI).

Punishment, 4/ the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 5/ and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 6/

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 7/ affirmed the human rights of women and girl children as an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Welcoming the recognition by the World Summit for Social Development of the danger to society of the trafficking in women and children,

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of sexual violence and trafficking in women and girls which are violations of the human rights of women and girl children,

Condemning the illicit and clandestine movement of persons across national and international borders, largely from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition, with the end goal of forcing women and girl children into sexually or economically oppressive and exploitative situations, for the profit of recruiters, traffickers and crime syndicates, as well as other illegal activities related to trafficking, such as forced domestic labour, false marriages, child marriages, clandestine employment and false adoption,

Noting the increasing number of women and girl children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being victimized by traffickers, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also victimizes young boys,

Recalling that the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1994/45 of 4 March 1994, called for the elimination of trafficking in women,

Aware of the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in its resolution 3/2 of 6 May 1994 to consider the international traffic in minors at its fourth session in the context of its discussions on the question of organized transnational crime,

Realizing the urgent need for the adoption of effective measures at the national, regional, and international levels to protect women and girl children from this nefarious traffic,

1. Expresses its grave concern over the worsening problems of trafficking, particularly the increasing syndication of the sex trade and the internationalization of the traffic in women and girl children;

4/ Resolution 39/46, annex.

5/ Resolution 44/25, annex.

6/ Resolution 48/104, annex.

7/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

2. Welcomes the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 8/ held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, which, inter alia, called upon all Governments to prevent all international trafficking in migrants, especially for the purpose of prostitution, and for the adoption by Governments of both receiving countries and countries of origin of effective sanctions against those who organize undocumented migration, exploit undocumented migrants or engage in trafficking in undocumented migrants, especially those who engage in any form of international traffic of women and girl children;

3. Invites Governments to combat trafficking in women and children through nationally and internationally coordinated measures, at the same time establishing or strengthening institutions for the rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking of women and children, and to ensure for victims the necessary assistance, including legal support services that are linguistically and culturally accessible, towards their full protection, treatment and rehabilitation;

4. Invites Governments to consider the development of standard minimum rules for the humanitarian treatment of trafficked persons, consistent with internationally recognized human rights standards;

5. Encourages Governments, relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to gather and share information relative to all aspects of trafficking in women and girl children in order to facilitate the development of anti-trafficking measures, and to adopt appropriate measures to create wider public awareness of the problem;

6. Calls upon all Governments to take appropriate measures to prevent the misuse and exploitation by traffickers of such economic activities as the development of tourism and the export of labour;

7. Encourages Member States to sign, ratify and accede to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, 9/ international agreements on the suppression of slavery and all other relevant international instruments;

8. Draws the attention of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to the problem of trafficking in women and girl children;

9. Welcomes the adoption by the Subcommission of its resolution 1994/5 recommending that Governments adopt legislation to prevent child prostitution and child pornography;

8/ A/CONF.171/13, chap. I.

9/ Resolution 317 (IV), annex.

10. Also draws attention also to the report of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography;

11. Invites the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to consider including in their respective programmes of action the subject of the traffic in women and girl children;

12. Recommends that the problem of trafficking in women and girl children be given consideration within the implementation of all relevant international legal instruments and, if need be, that consideration be given to measures to strengthen them, without undermining their legal authority and integrity;

13. Requests the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 to submit a report to the Secretary-General for inclusion in a preliminary report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Advancement of women";

14. Requests the Secretary-General to focus the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, 2 December 1996, on the problem of trafficking in human persons, especially women and children, and to devote one session of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly to the discussion of this problem.